

point where the gauge is stopped, when using this gauge in accordance with paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(5) Determination of the mesh size of the net will be the arithmetical mean in millimeters of the measurements of the total number of meshes selected and measured as provided for in paragraphs (c)(3) and (4) of this section, the arithmetical mean being rounded up to the next millimeter.

(6) *Inspection procedure.* (i) One series of 20 meshes, selected in accordance with paragraph (c)(3) of this section, will be measured by inserting the gauge manually without using a weight or dynamometer. The mesh size of the net will then be determined in accordance with paragraph (c)(5) of this section. If the calculation of the mesh size shows that the mesh size does not appear to comply with the rules in force, then two additional series of 20 meshes selected in accordance with paragraph (c)(3) of this section will be measured. The mesh size will then be recalculated in accordance with paragraph (c)(5) of this section, taking into account the 60 meshes already measured; this recalculation will be the mesh size of the net.

(ii) If the captain of the vessel contests the mesh size determined in accordance with paragraph (c)(6)(i) of this section, such measurement will not be considered for the determination of the mesh size and the net will be remeasured.

(A) A weight or dynamometer attached to the gauge will be used for remeasurement. The choice of weight or dynamometer is at the discretion of the inspectors. The weight will be fixed to the hole in the narrowest extremity of the gauge using a hook. The dynamometer may either be fixed to the hole in the narrowest extremity of the gauge or be applied at the largest extremity of the gauge.

(B) The accuracy of the weight or dynamometer must be certified by the appropriate national authority.

(C) For nets of a mesh size of 35 mm or less as determined in accordance with paragraph (c)(6)(i) of this section, a force of 19.61 newtons (equivalent to a mass of 2 kg) will be applied, and for other nets, a force of 49.03 newtons (equivalent to a mass of 5 kg).

(D) For the purposes of determining the mesh size in accordance with paragraph (c)(5) of this section, when using a weight or dynamometer, one series of 20 meshes only will be measured.

§300.111 Framework for annual management measures.

(a) *Introduction.* New management measures may be added and others modified through publication of a regulatory action in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The following framework process authorizes the implementation of measures that may affect the operation of the commercial or exploratory fisheries, gear, area restrictions, or changes in catch and/or effort.

(b) *Preliminary notice.* The Secretary of State shall publish preliminary notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the management measures adopted by the parties to the Convention.

(c) *Procedure.* At its annual meeting, usually in October or November, the Commission may recommend new measures and that established measures be modified, removed, or re-instituted. After public notice of those recommendations by the Secretary of State and opportunity for public comment, and after considering the impact of instituting the measures and any public comment received by the Secretary of State, the Assistant Administrator may implement the management measures by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, with immediate force and effect. The notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER will summarize new management measures, and respond to any public comments received by the Secretary of State on the preliminary notice.

(d) *Types of management measures to be frameworked.* Management measures that may be implemented by regulatory notice rather than by codified regulation are those that generally will not remain in effect for more than 12 months and include catch restrictions, time and area closures, and gear restrictions.

§300.112 Harvesting permits.

(a) *General.* (1) Every vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States that attempts to reduce or reduces any

AMLR to possession must have a harvesting permit authorizing the attempt or reduction, unless the attempt or reduction occurs during recreational fishing or is covered by an individual permit. Boats launched from a vessel issued a harvesting permit do not require a separate permit, but are covered by the permit issued the launching vessel. Any enforcement action that results from the activities of a launched boat will be taken against the launching vessel.

(2) Permits issued under this section do not authorize vessels or persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to harass, capture, harm, kill, harvest, or import marine mammals. No marine mammals may be taken in the course of commercial fishing operations unless the taking is allowed under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and/or the Endangered Species Act pursuant to an exemption or permit granted by the appropriate agency.

(b) *Responsibility of owners and operators.* (1) The owners and operators of each harvesting vessel are jointly and severally responsible for compliance with the Act, this subpart, and any permit issued under the Act and this subpart.

(2) The owners and operators of each such vessel are responsible for the acts of their employees and agents constituting violations, regardless of whether the specific acts were authorized or forbidden by the owners or operators, and regardless of knowledge concerning their occurrence.

(3) The owner of such vessel must report any sale, change in ownership, or other disposition of the vessel to the Assistant Administrator within 15 days of the occurrence.

(c) *Application.* Application forms for harvesting permits are available from the Assistant Administrator (Attn: CCAMLR permits). A separate fully completed and accurate application must be submitted for each vessel for which a harvesting permit is requested at least 90 days before the date anticipated for the beginning of harvesting.

(d) *Issuance.* The Assistant Administrator may issue a harvesting permit to a vessel if the Assistant Administrator determines that the harvesting described in the application will meet

the requirements of the Act and will not:

(1) Decrease the size of any harvested population to levels below those that ensure its stable recruitment. For this purpose, the Convention recommends that its size not be allowed to fall below a level close to that which ensures the greatest net annual increment.

(2) Upset the ecological relationships between harvested, dependent, and related populations of AMLRs and the restoration of depleted populations to levels that will ensure stable recruitment.

(3) Cause changes or increase the risk of changes in the marine ecosystem that are not potentially reversible over 2 or 3 decades, taking into account the state of available knowledge of the direct and indirect impact of harvesting, the effect of the introduction of alien species, the effects of associated activities on the marine ecosystem and of the effects of environmental changes, with the aim of making possible the sustained conservation of AMLRs.

(4) Violate the management measures issued pursuant to § 300.111 of this subpart.

(5) Violate any other conservation measures in force with respect to the United States under the Convention or the Act.

(e) *Duration.* A harvesting permit is valid from its date of issuance to its date of expiration unless it is revoked or suspended.

(f) *Transfer.* Permits are not transferable or assignable. A permit is valid only for the vessel to which it is issued.

(g) *Display.* Each harvesting vessel when engaged in harvesting must either have on board an up-to-date copy of its harvesting permit or a fully completed and up-to-date harvesting vessel certificate and the vessel operator must produce it for inspection upon the request of an authorized officer or CCAMLR inspector. In order for the certificate to be considered complete, the vessel owner or operator must enter on it the name and IRCS of the vessel issued the harvesting permit, the number of the harvesting permit and its date of issuance and expiration, the harvesting authorized by the permit, and all conditions and restrictions

contained in the permit. Blank certificates are available from the Assistant Administrator.

(h) *Changes in information submitted by permit applicants or holders*—(1) *Changes in pending applications.* Applicants for a harvesting permit must report to the Assistant Administrator in writing any change in the information contained in the application. The processing period for the application will be extended as necessary to review the change.

(2) *Changes occurring after permit issuance*—(i) *Changes other than in the manner and amount of harvesting.* The owner or operator of a vessel that has been issued a harvesting permit must report to the Assistant Administrator in writing any change in previously submitted information other than a proposed change in the location, manner, or amount of harvesting within 15 days of the change. Based on such reported information, the Assistant Administrator may revise the permit effective upon notification to the permit holder. As soon as possible, the vessel owner or operator must revise any harvesting vessel certificate evidencing the permit, accordingly.

(ii) *Requested changes in the location, manner, or amount of harvesting.* Any changes in the manner or amount of harvesting must be proposed in writing to the Assistant Administrator and may not be undertaken unless authorized by the Assistant Administrator through a permit revision or issuance of a new permit. If a requested change in the location, manner, or amount of harvesting could significantly affect the status of any Antarctic marine living resource, the Assistant Administrator will treat the requested change as an application for a new permit and so notify the holder.

(i) *Additional conditions and restrictions.* The Assistant Administrator may revise the harvesting permit, effective upon notification to the permit holder, to impose additional conditions and restrictions on the harvesting vessel as necessary to achieve the purposes of the Convention or the Act. The permit holder must, as soon as possible, direct the vessel operator to revise the harvesting vessel certificate, if any, accordingly.

(j) *Revision, suspension, or revocation for violations.* A harvesting permit may be revised, suspended, or revoked if the harvesting vessel is involved in the commission of any violation of its permit, the Act, or this subpart. Failure to report a change in the information contained in an application within 15 days of the change is a violation of this subpart and voids the application or permit, as applicable. If a change in vessel ownership is not reported, the violation is chargeable to the previous owner. Title 15 CFR part 904 governs permit sanctions under this subpart.

§ 300.113 Import permits.

(a) *General.* (1) Any AMLR may be imported into the United States if its harvest is authorized by an individual permit or a harvesting permit. The harvesting permit, the harvesting vessel certificate, or the individual permit, or a copy of any thereof, must accompany the import. AMLRs harvested by entities not subject to U.S. jurisdiction and, thus, not harvested under a U.S. issued permit (i.e., a harvesting permit or an individual permit), also may be imported into the United States if such harvesting will meet or met the requirements of the Act and will not or did not violate any conservation measure in force with respect to the United States under the Convention or the Act or violate any of the regulations in this subpart, including resource management measures contained therein. A NMFS issued import permit or copy thereof must accompany such an import as proof that the foreign harvested resources met such requirements. Further, the importer is required to complete and return to the Assistant Administrator, no later than 10 days after the date of the importation, an import ticket reporting the importation. However, in no event may a marine mammal be imported into the United States unless authorized and accompanied by an import permit issued under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and/or the Endangered Species Act.

(2) A permit issued under this section does not authorize the harvest of any AMLRs.

(b) *Application.* Application forms for import permits are available from the